

# Atlantic Crossroads

Vol. 11, No. 15 • April 13, 2006 | Lajes Field, Azores, Portugal | In the Fight!



**Alcohol Awareness Month** See pages 6-7

*Photo by Capt. Melissa Waheibi*

## Makeover

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## Hut

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opens for Airmen, teens*

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## Festivals

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season begins*

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## Lajes Weather

### Friday

*Mostly  
cloudy with  
isolated  
showers  
High 64  
Low 57*



### Saturday

*Mostly  
cloudy with  
morning  
showers  
High 63  
Low 55*



### Sunday

*Mostly  
cloudy with  
rain showers  
High 59  
Low 55*



*Weather courtesy of the  
65th OSS weather flight.*



## Commander's Line: Housing needs clean up

### Question

I currently live in Beira-Mar housing and I was just wondering, we have pride day once a month on base, but we never have pride day in base housing, and I was just curious as to why not.

Personally, I feel that housing is starting to look like a dump and people aren't picking up after themselves.

There's going to be a couple of people that are going to pick up after themselves, but if that's the case, then everyone else is going to continue to trash it

because they know everyone else is picking up and no one is going to say anything. Maybe we should have a pride day in base housing.

### Answer:

Base personnel do an excellent job of maintaining their work environments through continuous cleanup efforts between base and contract personnel.

For housing residents, the base initiated the first-ever Housing Pride Day in November, which was a huge success. Plans have already been drafted for a repeat

performance. Civil Engineer Squadron personnel have combined base and housing cleanup events with Earth Week (April 17-24).

The housing self help store will have additional plants, soil and other outdoor items/tools to help improve the living conditions for on-base residents on Friday and Saturday of Earth week. It's everyone's responsibility to pick up debris around their neighborhoods and we appreciate your continued support in keeping Lajes an outstanding place to work

and live.

*The Commander's Line is your direct link to me for suggestions, kudos and as a way to work problems or issues within the 65th Air Base Wing for which you can't find another solution.*

*Your chain of command should always be your first option for praise or problems -- but when that's not the answer, call or e-mail the CC Line at 535-4240 or [actionline@lajes.af.mil](mailto:actionline@lajes.af.mil).*

**-Col. Robert Winston**  
65th Air Base Wing  
commander

## FTAC Airman shares view of Lajes Field flair

**By Airman Mike Hewell**

65th Medical Operations Squadron

I look into the eyes of my supervisor, new to the island herself. The eyes that hold my future in her grasp and peer at me lead simply to a quaint smile. I have attended many briefings revolving around the idea of setting and obtaining goals while being here, so to take advantage of all the wonderful advice I have received, I have set a few obtainable goals of my own to accomplish on station. Completing my (career development course) and helping to secure a positive work environment have become attractions to my time spent at Lajes. A diligent work ethic and positive outlook to the seclusion of our location will ensure a positive reflection on both me and the dental clinic in which I fulfill my military duties.

Education is a major focus of the Lajes community, and while I cannot begin college courses yet, I look forward to furthering my understanding

of my daily duties at work. Both my supervisor and NCOIC have made efforts to ensure a thorough study program and timeline for success. I have set before me an outline, or obligatory suggestion, to finish certain units of study within certain units of time. With the supplied proposals and my industrious tendencies, I look forward to the completion of my upgrade training during my stay on Terceira.

The quality of the work area is a very important part of life, especially when people are thrown together in the middle of the Atlantic Ocean. Our clinic seems to have a great environment that I hope to build on. The base has a small population allowing for recognition in the work place. I've found that even early on in my time that I know many of the people who have appointments. The events at Lajes also harbor a large realm of conversation. Even if I do not know a patient, I've noted the uncomplicated manner to make someone feel welcome, in turn

producing a more constructive atmosphere to get the job done.

The aforementioned focus only on my time at Lajes; I have set goals pertaining to my first enlistment as well. I am working to build both my career and my family. At this point, I am undecided about a reenlistment, and I hope to be ready for children. A career-oriented goal is to make the rank of staff sergeant by the end of my first enlistment; I'm finding this to be less of a dream and surprisingly attainable.

My time at Lajes will be well spent I'm sure. I intend to take advantage of the many opportunities to include myself in base activities, volunteer hours and squadron functions. I aspire to take hold of the Lajes Field flair and add to it. Upon my departure from this island, I will leave a better, more experienced Airman.

*Editor's Note: During each FTAC class students are asked to write an essay. The winning essay is published on a space-available basis.*

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## Extreme Makeover Lajes Edition Youth center renovations begin

By Staff Sgt.  
**Christin Michaud**  
65th ABW Public Affairs

The youth center gymnasium will look like the set of a hit television show next week and undergo a drastic makeover thanks to one sergeant's idea.

"They always say; 'first impressions set the tone and expectations of all assignments,'" explained Master Sgt. Tony Flowers, 65th Services Squadron. His first visit to the youth center was to sign his daughter up for the youth talent contest shortly after they arrived on the island. "Believe me; I wasn't impressed with the condition of the youth center.

"I saw a desperate need to improve the quality of life for our children," he said. "Sometime we get so wrapped up with the consistent change over of personnel that some things get put off to the side to wait for the next person to arrive."

Sergeant Flowers decided to help put an end to that cycle. He proposed Extreme Makeover – Lajes Edition, similar to the hit television show that produces drastic makeovers in a short period of time.

He teamed up with 65th SVS Commander Lt. Col. John Oliver, Don Ehrman, the deputy commander and Kimberly Moore, family member support flight chief.

Their first step was spending time at the youth center to identify the problems.

"I sat down with each of the employees to learn more about their operation; you just can't go into a facility and start making changes unless you know their operation and how they function," said Sergeant Flowers.

"The staff has some great visions and all they needed was for someone to help them put it on paper, then financial support to back their concept."

The 65th SVS is funding the cost of the new equipment for the LYP. The 65th Civil Engineer Squadron is supporting the construction portion through self-help.

The work will be done by volunteers. There are more than 12 experienced carpenters, two interior designers and six artists who will volunteer their time.

The youth center gym will be closed during the renovations so volunteers can use it as a workshop.

"The youth center's new layout will include improved educational, recreational and social tools for our youth," said Colonel Oliver.

The project begins Monday and ends May 24. Paige Hemmis, the carpentry designer for Extreme Makeover Home Edition is coming to Lajes as part of the 2006 Extreme Summer Program Tour.

The Grand Opening will feature a cut-out of a school bus located into the entryway to the foyer of the center. Instead of the traditional ribbon cutting ceremony, children in the program will move the bus while others shout "move that bus," like they do on the television show.

"The changes will be dramatic," Sergeant Flowers said.

Twelve areas of the youth center are scheduled to receive the makeover including art, dramatic play, science, woodworking, life skills, construction zone, the quiet and reading areas of the before and after school program. Other changes to the youth center include the eating area, game room and computer center.

"I'm convinced the first change that will strike the youth and their families will be the wide array of bright colors that will add energy and excitement to the facility," said Colonel Oliver. "Next, I'm sure our youth will be pleased with the quality of the new equipment, games and furniture that will accompany this ex-

treme makeover."

A sneak preview to what youth can expect is a new space lab.

"Imagine walking into a separate room that puts you through time travel," said Sergeant Flowers. "The walls will look like the inside of the space shuttle. As you walk into the room you notice two upper platforms with four captain chairs set up like a flight simulator. The kids

will be able to network the play stations together and play as a team of four while wearing their headsets playing their favorite game." The space lab will feature stars on the ceiling as well as built-in televisions, a stereo, large screen, karaoke machine and surround sound.

"The youth will benefit because one

of their favorite hangouts will receive an extreme makeover," Colonel Oliver said. "It'll be like Christmas in May.

"Much like any volunteer endeavor, I believe the entire community will benefit by giving back," the colonel said.

"I'm excited about the challenge that lies before us. This extreme makeover will be a lasting legacy that all participants will leave for those who follow us," he said. "I appreciate the support from the wing leadership and owe a special thanks to Sergeant Flowers who is the brains behind this event."

Volunteer opportunities will be Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday 1 to 8 p.m.

For more information, call Sergeant Flowers at 91-896-3381 or e-mail him at [tony.flowers@lajes.af.mil](mailto:tony.flowers@lajes.af.mil).

*"I saw a desperate need to improve the quality of life for our children."*

*-Master Sgt.  
Tony Flowers*

### Commissary closures

The Lajes Field Commissary will be closed Friday in honor of the Portuguese holiday Good Friday. It will reopen Saturday.

The annual formal inventory is scheduled for April 22. The store will close at 2 p.m. that day. The commissary will reopen that Monday.

**Blood drive:** A blood drive is scheduled for April 21. Blood donations must be given at Angra Hospital, so donors will need their supervisor's permission to be gone for most of the day.

For more information, call Capt. Michael Doersam at 535-1458.







## Everyday Hero



Tech. Sgt.  
Michelle Henderson

**Rank/Name:** Tech. Sgt. Michelle Henderson

**Organization:** 729th Air Mobility Squadron

**Duty title:** Senior Controller/CRO/ SORTS

**Job description (20 words or less):** A shift controller in the AMCC and Wing Command Post. I also manage the CP COMSEC and SORTS program

**Hometown:** Gaffney, S.C.

**Time in the Air Force:** 10 years and 8 months

**Spouse/children:** Damon/ (daughter) Amaya

**What's the best aspect of your job?** Being able to interact with transiting aircrews

**What are your career goals?** Simply, to do well in every position I hold

**Best military experience:** I received an incentive ride in an F-16. To experience the acrobat maneuvers, and be given the controls to do a little flying myself was something I'll never forget

**Life goal(s):** To be happy

**One word to describe you:** Organized

**Hobbies:** Watching movies with my husband

**Favorite food(s):** Fried rice and Italian

**Favorite color:** Blue

**Pet peeve:** Laziness

**No one knows:** When I was younger, I lived in the Philippines for seven years

**When I was growing up, I wanted to be:** I never could figure that out

**The first thing I would do if I won \$1,000,000 is:** Have my dream house built

## Overseas returnee assignment listing available

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas (AFPN)** — The Enlisted Quarterly Assignment Listing for Airmen returning from overseas and continental United States mandatory movers from August through October is now available.

Airmen can work through their military personnel flight or their commander's support staff to update their preferences. Deployed Airmen must work with their personnel support for contingency operations representative to update assignment preferences.

Assignment preferences must be updated by April 27. If selected, Airmen will be notified no later than May 15, according to Air Force Personnel Center officials here.

EQUAL advertises upcoming assignment requirements by Air Force specialty code and rank. Airmen should review, prioritize and update their assignment preferences based on the EQUAL list.

Airmen can view the list at [www.afpc.randolph.af.mil](http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil) or at local MPFs.

*(Courtesy of AFPC News Service)*



## School call

*Army Staff Sgt. James Costin speaks to the Lajes Elementary School second grade class. He discussed life as a U.S. Army Soldier and veterinary technician. Sergeant Costin also talked with the children about treating animals here at Lajes. (Photo by Heather Thompson)*

## FTAC graduates

The following Airmen graduated from the First Term Airman Center Class 06-C: Airman 1st Class Tommy Crocket, 65th Security Forces Squadron; Airman 1st Class Tatiana Wentworth, 65th SFS; Airman 1st Class Craig Turgeon, 65th SFS; Airman Brian Cuevas; Airman 1st Class Bryant Carpenter, 65th SFS; Airman 1st Class Rome Reiswig, 65th Communications Squadron; Airman 1st Class Jason Fowler, 65th CS; Airman Steven Brumley, 65th CS; Airman Daniel Carr, 65th CS; Airman Keith Martincic, 65th CS; Airman 1st Class Matthew Meyer, 729th Air Mobility Squadron; Airman Ashley Zamonas, 729th AMS; Airman 1st Class Thomas Maynard, 729th AMS; Airman 1st Class Luca McVay, 65th Medical Operations Squadron; and Airman Shari McNeal, 65th Mission Support Squadron.

The Professional Pride award winner was Airman Reiswig and the essay contest winner was Airman Carpenter.



## Sun and Sand Hut offers escape for E-5 and below, Lajes teens

**By Staff Sgt.  
Christin Michaud**  
65th ABW Public Affairs

Lajes enlisted troops in the rank of staff sergeant and below now share their turf with base teens.

The Sun and Sand Hut, began as an Airmen's club, a place to relax and have fun, explained Marco Rocha.

The club, which has been open for just more than a year and a half, was originally for E-1s through E-5s 18 and older.

Friday though, the 65th Services Squadron opened it up to Lajes teens for Teen Night.

More than 30 teens from the Lajes Youth Program turned out for the grand opening Friday and just as many came Saturday night.

"It went very well," said Sarah Grayson, 65th SVS school age coordinator.

This is the largest turn out at the Hut in some time.

"It simply was not being utilized by the intended audience," explained Chief Mas-

ter Sgt. Laten Williams, 65th Air Base Wing command chief.

"We solicited ideas from the Lajes Rising-IV, Top-3, and 1st Sgts' councils on how to better use for our community," he said.

"This is a great resource that not only our troops can enjoy, but now our family members, too," he added.

Opening the Sun and Sand Hut to teens is important for two reasons, explained the chief.

"It shows the commitment by our wing senior leaders to listen to our people's ideas. Equally, importantly it shows great emphasis being placed on taking care of our people and families."

In addition, to being open to Airmen and teens, anyone eligible to use the Sun and Sand Hut can invite guests.

Airmen can have as many guests as they would like as long as the guests are 18 or older.

Teens who use the Hut during Teen Night must be members of the Lajes Youth Pro-

gram. They are able to bring another guest with them as long as the guest is a U.S. ID card holder.

"All guests must be escorted and are their responsibility," said Sr. Rocha.

The Sun and Sand Hut has a variety of things available for guests, including a pool table, ping pong tables, air hockey, four Playstation 2s with 16 games, a karaoke machine and a theater room.

Airmen and teens can also find Time Crisis 3 and Basketball Shot, arcade game machines. There are 72 movies for use in the theater, and the best part, said Sr. Rocha, is that all of it is free.

A few months ago, a Madden NFL 06 Tournament was held at the Hut. Staff Sgt. Christopher Howard, 65th Operations Support Squadron, competed against nine others to take first place. He won a trophy and a cash prize. There was no cost to enter the tournament.

"The tournament went well," said Staff Sgt. Terrance Lundie, 65th OSS. "The

management was great at helping with any request we had."

Other activities and tournaments include ping pong, air hockey, and other PS 2 tournaments.

The Hut offers an environment and activities for everyone.

A snack bar is available for guests to purchase water and soda as well. Beer is sold when the facility is open to Airmen.

"I think what makes the SSH important to Lajes is the fact of having a different area beside the (Top of the Rock Club) so Airmen and now teens can enjoy their time by having fun in a different way," Sr. Rocha said.

The Sun and Sand Hut is located behind the community center and is open Monday 6 to 10 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Sunday noon to 5 p.m.

Teen night is Friday and Saturday from 7 to 9:30 p.m., for teens 13-18 years old.

For more information, call 535-4135.



### Girl power

*The 65th Communications Squadron women's team pull a fire truck Friday. The fire truck pull was a fundraiser for the Air Force Assistance Fund.*

*Ten teams competed in the event. Each team had to pull the fire truck 50 feet. The fire department took first place for moving the truck in only 17.82 seconds. A team from the 729th Air Mobility Squadron placed second and the 65th Logistics Readiness Squadron walked away with third place. (Photo by Guido Melo)*



# FEATURE

## Alcohol Awareness Month

# DUIs can wreck lives, careers

**Commentary by Airman 1st Class  
Mark Bannert**

13th Intelligence Squadron

**BEALE AIR FORCE BASE,  
Calif. (AFPN)** — My blues are crisp. My low-quarters are highly shined. My hair is freshly cut and my face is closely shaven. I appear the consummate Airman.

My palms are sweating. I have a meeting with my commander.

I enter the room trying to be cool and confident, but uncontrollably, my face flushes. There are so many other scenarios where reporting to the commander would be a proud moment.

I stand at attention saluting my commander. As my reporting statement leaves my lips my mouth feels as if I have just swallowed a cup of sand. The words are slow and forced. My head is spinning as I look into his eyes. The usually calming blue hue of his kind eyes have turned into something different.

I see red flames and feel the utter anger and disgust he feels toward me wearing the same uniform as him. He feels that I have disrespected my country, my Air Force, and my squadron. His voice is calm and confident. "What were you thinking?" Before I can speak, my mind is flooded with the memories of that night.

The night is cold and rain is falling all around me like little liquid spears. The fight I was in with my girlfriend has my blood flowing and my mind racing. The alcohol in my system does nothing to help calm me or collect my thoughts.

There are 85 miles between where I am and where I need to be. I could call

Beale Airmen Against Drunk Driving or one of my co-workers and they will surely come to get me but I don't. I don't want to disrupt them. I'll just see how I do.

I get in the car; the ignition is difficult to find in my drunken stupor but I am finally able to find it and turn the key. My music is blaring, and I feel quite drowsy.

I'll just roll down the window. The cool air and rain hitting my face wakes me momentarily. I find my way out of the neighborhood and hit the freeway. The next hour and a half I go in and out of consciousness a few times, scaring myself.

I'm singing at the top of my lungs to stay awake; finally the alcohol and humming of the road take over.

Slam! My world is rocked by a loud crash, a plume of chalky air and my nose hurts. The airbags have deployed and I am confused about what exactly has happened.

I instantly try to restart the car. I am only 15 minutes from my friend's house and there is no way he will deny me sleeping there.

The car won't start and I am in a ditch. I turn off my headlights and decide that I will just walk to my destination. The car is totaled. Both the front and back of the car are smashed into the cabin and miraculously I am uninjured.

No one will see the car and I'll get a tow truck to pick it up in the morning. I stagger down the road upset and confused until a black car stops and asks me if I need help. He says, "Hop in, I'll give you a ride." I get in and as he turns the car around he asks me, "Are you OK?"

Then he asks if I was involved in the car wreck. He tells me he has both good and bad news for me. I ask; "What's the good news?" not sure what exactly he means and he tells me that he picked me up. I inquire further. "What's the bad news?" He says he is an off-duty cop and he's taking me back to the scene.

My heart races and the only thing I can think of is how to get myself out of this. They do not understand what I have been through tonight.

Next thing I know we are back at the scene. I only made it five miles before I

was picked up. The police are amazed to see me unscathed after seeing the car and tell me I'm lucky. As they are putting me in cuffs and reading me my rights, I am not thinking that I am lucky, I'm thinking I'm screwed; my career is over. And in a way all that was true.

Any trust I had developed with my co-workers over the past six months is gone. There are going to be repercussions from this for the rest of my

career. Every base I go to will know, "This is the guy that got the DUI." Enlisted Performance Reports will be low, encouraging more low EPRs.

When new people enter the squadron they are notified quite quickly that I am a troublemaker and someone not to be associated with. No matter that I have changed.

I want to be that same troop I was when I joined, full of promise and honor, morals and virtue guiding my everyday decisions. I must now try twice as hard to get half the distance as my peers. In the end "A man's character is his fate." — Heraclitus.

So keep your path filled with character that expresses our core values — "Integrity first, service before self, and excellence in all you do" and you will lead a successful life of no regret.

*"I stagger down the road upset and confused until a black car stops and asks me if I need help ... he tells me he has both good and bad news for me."*





## Life "On the Rocks?"

### April is Alcohol Abuse Awareness Month

The Alcohol and Drug Abuse Prevention and Treatment program will offer free anonymous screenings for alcohol use disorders during the month of April. The goal is to help people recognize the signs of an alcohol problem and learn where to get support and treatment.

One in every 13 adults suffers from alcohol abuse or alcohol dependence. Millions more drink in ways that can place themselves or others at risk. And for those who don't personally have a drinking problem, they may be directly affected by someone who does – approximately one-half of U.S. adults report a family history of alcoholism or problem drinking.

As part of National Alcohol Screening Day, attendees will have the opportunity to complete a brief, written questionnaire assessing their alcohol use and talk privately with a health professional about their results. These screening sites will be set up at various locations around the base to include: commissary, BX and dining facility. The program is free and confidential.

Community members can also take a special online screening at [www.nationalalcoholscreeningday.org](http://www.nationalalcoholscreeningday.org).

According to experts in the field of addictions, brief interventions, such as talking about your drinking with a health professional at a National Alcohol Screening Day event can help resolve mild to moderate alcohol problems as well as encourage those with more serious problems to seek treatment.

Signs that you, a friend, or a loved one may have an alcohol problem:

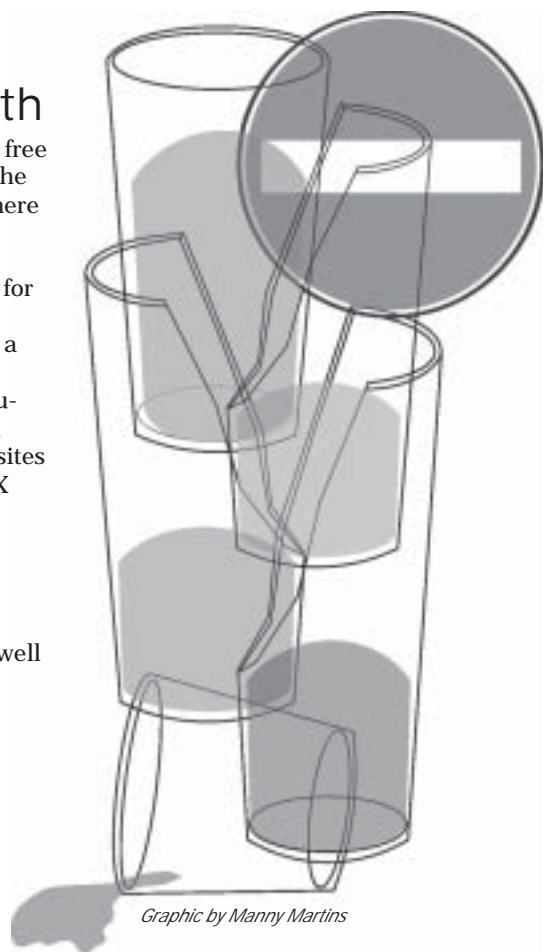
- o Drinking to calm nerves, forget worries, or boost a sad mood
- o Guilt about drinking
- o Unsuccessful attempts to cut down/stop drinking
- o Lying about or hiding drinking habits
- o Causing harm to oneself or someone else as a result of drinking
- o Needing to drink increasingly greater amounts in order to achieve

desired effect

- o Feeling irritable, resentful, or unreasonable when not drinking
- o Medical, social, family, or financial problems caused by drinking

Alcohol Screening Day is held in April as a part of Alcohol Awareness Month. Last year an estimated 221,000 people attended a National Alcohol Screening Day event. Of those that completed a screening form, 45 percent scored in the hazardous or harmful drinking range.

*-Courtesy of the 65th Medical Operations Squadron*



*Graphic by Manny Martins*

## Name the campaign for Lajes — 0-0-1-3

During the month of April, the Medical Group is hosting a contest to come up for a slogan for a responsible drinking campaign at Lajes Field.

The winner will be announced on the radio and will also win an iPod.

There are submission boxes at the commissary, dining facility, library, and family support center.

For more information, call Capt. Brenda Bryant at 535-5077.

"0-0-1-3" stands for **0** drinks if you are under age, **0** DUIs, a maximum of **1** drink per hour, and a maximum of **3** drinks in one night.

### A drink is:

- a 12-ounce bottle of beer;
- a 5-ounce glass of wine; or
- a 1 1/2-ounce shot of liquor.





# COMMUNITY FEATURE

## Azores archipelago

*Ed highlights each of nine islands continuing with Pico*

By Ed Lima

Community Relations adviser

*This is the sixth of a series of articles on all of the nine islands which form the Azorean archipelago.*

### Pico

The Island of Pico, or mountain island as it is also commonly known among the Azoreans, is named for the impressive mountain that emerges from it (Pico means "peak" in Portuguese).

It has the second largest land mass in the archipelago with a surface area of approximately 174 square miles and a population of more than 15,000 inhabitants.

Pico is the highest mountain of the Portuguese territory with an altitude of 7,711 feet culminating in the crater of Pico Grande, from which rises the volcanic cone of Pico Pequeno or Piquinho.

The island was settled around 1460 when natives of northern Portugal arrived after colonizing the islands of Terceira and Graciosa. Inhabitants initially concentrated on production of wheat and woad, a dye-yielding plant exported to Flanders, but the production of wine and fishing soon joined these activities.

Pico natives worked hard to turn the lava beds into vineyards. The Verdelho white wine of Pico has gained international fame over the centuries and it is highly appreciated in several countries; namely England, the U.S. and Russia, where at one time was served at the table of the Czars.

American whalers sailing in the Azorean waters around the 18th century introduced a new activity - whale hunting - which was, for many years, an important source of wealth for the island. Whale hunting lasted until the European Union banned it in 1985.

Now, Pico is experiencing economic growth due to the construction of a new port, an airport and the increase of tourism activity. The island is divided into three districts: Madalena, São Roque and Lajes.

The village of Madalena, the island's main economic center, gained town status in 1723. Its port, located directly across from Horta on the nearby island of Faial, provides daily maritime



*Pico is the highest mountain of the Portuguese territory with an altitude of 7,711 feet. (Courtesy photo)*

connection with that island.

The island's main port is located in São Roque, a small town facing the channel between São Jorge and Pico. This is an old town, connected with the whaling industry and the site of the only whale rendering plant on the island. The plant has a display of giant pots and other tools that were once used to render whale fat. São Roque also features a campsite where you can set up your tent, take showers and cook for a very reasonable price.

The town of Lajes, located on the sunny, southern side of Pico, was the site of the island's first settlement. It has an important fishing port and is also a former whale-hunting center. The whalers' museum, established in a former boathouse, is one of the town's highlights. It features a varied collection of scrimshaw items, carved in whale's teeth and bones. A whaling canoe and several other tools used in the whale hunting are also on display.

Although whale hunting has been banned, the town of Lajes still plays an important role in the whaling tradition via whale watching. This is a recent activity that attracts thousands of enthusiasts who want to see sperm whales up close.

To honor the old whalers, each year the town of Lajes celebrates the "Whalers' Week" during the last week of August.

Other villages around the island that deserve a detailed visit include Santo Antonio, Santa Luzia, Bandeiras,

Prainha, Santo Amaro (a small village and the main shipbuilding yard in the Azores), Piedade, Calheta do Nesquim, Ribeiras, São Mateus, São Caetano and Candelaria.

The vineyards of Pico are also very peculiar. A maze of stonewalls form small fields where the grapevines grow. As I mentioned earlier, Pico is famous for its wines.

The crystal blue sea surrounding the island is a tempting invitation to fish, snorkel and observe underwater lava formations, flora and fauna. Swimming is possible in several areas along the coast (São Roque and Madalena have salt-water swimming pools).

The climb to the top of the mountain is difficult, but the breathtaking view of Pico and the other islands makes it well worth the effort. It is suggested that hikers hire a local guide to climb to the top of the mountain due to the difficult terrain and the many deep crevasses the mountain has.

Like the other islands, Pico also celebrates the Holy Ghost festival during its season. Other important festivals during the summer include the festivities of Bom Jesus in the village of São Mateus; Santa Maria Madalena in the village of Madalena; and "grape harvesting week" the second week of September.

You can travel to Pico via ferryboat between May and September or by airplane year-round. Round trip airfare costs about 152 euros, depending on the exchange rate.



## Locals begin celebration of Holy Ghost festivals

**By Ed Lima**

Community Relations adviser

Every year, the Azoreans, especially the Terceirans, celebrate the Holy Ghost Festival. This religious celebration begins Easter Sunday and runs for eight weeks until Pentecost and Trinity Sunday.

This ancient religious tradition began on mainland Portugal around 1296, by an initiative of Portuguese Queen Isabel. She founded the first Holy Ghost brotherhood whose intent was to honor the poorest man in the kingdom. According to the tradition, every year the poorest man in the kingdom was placed on the king's throne and crowned "emperor" for one day during a religious ceremony held in his honor in the royal church.

Following the crowning ceremony, a royal procession took the crowned man from the church to the palace, where a banquet was then offered in his honor. Considered an act of humbleness, the tradition was first introduced in the Azores through the first settlers around 1432 and practiced through subsequent generations.

Though the tradition has disappeared in the mainland

Portugal, it is still actively celebrated in the Azores, as well as in Azorean communities in the United States (California, New England, Hawaii), Canada and Brazil.

Although royalty and noblemen originally celebrated this religious event, over time, the common people adopted it and silver crowns replaced the royal crown. Traditionally, during natural catastrophes like volcano eruptions and earthquakes, or when someone is seriously ill, the Azorean people carry the Holy Ghost crowns to the churches and pray for the Holy Ghost to save them.

If their prayers are answered, they host a week-long festival to honor the Holy Ghost.

During the season, some members of the brotherhood – previously selected by drawing – are given the honor of keeping the Holy Ghost crowns, flags and other ornaments at their homes in a wooden altar decorated with white paper and flowers for one week.

In the evenings, festival hosts, relatives and other guests gather in front of the altar to pray the rosary and worship the Holy Ghost.

Then, on Thursday or Friday afternoon, it's time for the "festa do bezerro" (festival of the calf). The calves, usually two, are fetched from the pastures where they have been grazing year round and are paraded through the village streets after being garlanded with flowers, paper ribbons and cowbells. The calves usually lead the parade followed by the hosts, guests, musicians and singers.

Later in the evening, the calves are slaughtered and their meat is divided in different portions. Some is saved for the Sunday's banquet, while the remaining is given as alms to relatives



*Members of the brotherhood are given the honor of keeping the Holy Ghost crowns in their home for a week in a wooden altar decorated with white paper and flowers. (Courtesy photos)*

and the village's poorest people.

On Sunday — the most awaited and important day of the celebration — activities start early in the morning with preparation of the food to be served later. At around 11:30 a.m., guests start arriving at the host's house and the Holy Ghost parade forms and heads toward the church with the crowns and flags for the crowning ceremony during Mass.

After the priest blesses the crowns and selected individuals – usually the hosts' children or the hosts themselves – are "crowned," the procession heads back to the house through the village main streets with the honorees carrying the crowns on

their heads.

Later in the afternoon, hundreds of guests take a seat for the Holy Ghost banquet that is served with the Holy Ghost soup, boiled beef, alcatra, sweet bread and the local wine "vinho de cheiro." Alcatra is a traditional local dish made of beef, smoked bacon, onions, and other spices, all slow-roasted in an oven after being marinated in red or white wine for several hours.

The last event of the day and of the long week is when the hosts and guests take the crowns and flags, again in a parade, to the next honorees' home, where a similar celebration begins for a new family.



*Holy Ghost House*



## Judo workout

*Left: Col. Robert Winston, demonstrates a Judo move on Capt. Mark Anderson to students Monday.*

*Judo -- challenging, physical workouts in the combat spirit -- will be conducted 5:30 to 6:45 p.m. Mondays and Thursdays in T-203 (across from the CDC). Participants are instructed to wear sweats or old BDU's and be prepared to work. (Photos by Senior Airman Tabitha Larson)*



## Sports Shorts

### This month

Friday - Flag football tournament  
April 26 - Golf coaches meeting  
April 28 - Soccer coaches meeting  
Youth baseball

### sign ups

Lajes Youth Sports baseball sign ups are at the Lajes Youth Center, Bldg. T-240. Youth ages 5 to 17 are eligible. The season starts April 29 and ends June 10. Cost is \$25 for members and \$35 for nonmembers. The deadline to register is April 21, and the skills assessment will be held April 22. For more information, call 535-1197.

### Group Fitness Class

#### Monday

8:30 a.m. -- Step with Celia  
Noon -- Spin with Tina  
4:15 p.m. -- Cardio Mix with Manuela  
5:15 p.m. -- Aero Kombat with Celia  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Celia

#### Tuesday

6 a.m. -- Spin with Dawn  
8:30 a.m. -- Circuit Training with Celia  
5:15 p.m. -- Circuit Training with Rui  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Rui

#### Wednesday

8:30 a.m. -- Step with Celia  
Noon -- Spin with Tina  
4:15 p.m. -- Cardio Mix with Manuela  
5:15 p.m. -- Step with Manuela  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Georgina

#### Thursday

6 a.m. -- Spin with Dawn  
8:30 a.m. -- Circuit Training with Celia  
5:15 p.m. -- Body Sculpting with Manuela  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Manuela

#### Friday

8:30 a.m. -- Spin with Celia  
Noon -- Spin with Tina  
4:15 p.m. -- Cardio Mix with Manuela  
5:15 p.m. -- Step with Celia  
6:15 p.m. -- Spin with Celia

#### Saturday

10 a.m. -- Spin with Celia  
11 a.m. -- Circuit Training/  
Stretching with Rui



# PLANNER

## Security Forces Blotter

April 5

Location: Rental Car Associate

Complainant telephoned SDCC stating a customer (active duty Airman) had left without paying for his rental car bill. The complainant also stated that the customer tried to pay the bill with a credit card but had insufficient funds so he said he would go get some money and return. The complainant was suspicious and decided to follow him. The customer never retrieved the money, proceeded to T-612/ Passenger Terminal and then proceeded onto the aircraft parked on the Alpha Ramp to PCS. **SFS** arrived on-scene and verbally relayed that the aircraft was rolling down the taxiway and entering the active runway to takeoff. The member subsequently paid the bill.

April 9

SDCC was notified by AB#4 Controller that a cab driver dropped off a wallet and identification card at Papa-1. The property was found to belong an active duty Airman. **SFS** transported the property from Papa-1 to the SDCC. Accountability of all contents were annotated and recorded. The Airman was notified via telephone to report to the SDCC to receive any lost items.



## Wild waves

*Waves crash over the Praia lighthouse Monday. (Photo by Sandy Zell) To submit a photo to the Crossroads, e-mail it to [news@lajes.af.mil](mailto:news@lajes.af.mil).*

## Tradewinds Dining Facility Menu

### Friday

**Lunch:** Mexican Baked Chicken,\*

Swiss Steak with Tomato Sauce and Stuffed Green Pepper

**Dinner:** Lasagna, Spaghetti with meat sauce and Italian Sausage

### Saturday

**Brunch:** Cajun Meat Loaf and Crispy Baked Chicken\*

**Dinner:** Stuffed Green Peppers, Stir Fry Chicken\* and Pork Chops

### Sunday

**Easter Brunch:** BBQ Spareribs, Strip Steak and Roast Turkey

**Dinner:** Fried Shrimp, Spinach Lasagna\* and Ginger BBQ Chicken\*

### Monday

Italian Sausage, Country Captain Chicken,\* Swiss Steak with Tomato sauce

**Dinner:** Baked Ham, Roast Turkey\* and Fish and Chips

### Tuesday

**Lunch:** Yakisoba, Pork Schnitzel and Onion-Lemon Fish\*

**Dinner:** Paprika Beef, BBQ Beef Cubes and Chicken Fajitas

### Wednesday

Beef Porcupines, Chicken Enchiladas\* and Lemon Herbed Chicken\*

**Dinner:** Pita Pizzas\* and Country Style Steak

### Thursday

**Lunch: Italian Meal** - Lasagna, Italian Sausage and Chicken Parmesan\*

**Dinner:** Mr. Z Baked Chicken,\* Pepper Steak and Pasta Primavera

\*Denotes Healthy Heart item  
Menu subject to change

## At the Movies

**Friday: 7 p.m. Curious George** starring Will Ferrell and Drew Barrymore

The adventures of Curious George, the inquisitive little guy with an insatiable taste for adventure. George's spunky and fun-loving nature endears him to new friends, but also lands him in a series of (mis-) adventures. Rated G, 86 min.

**Friday: 10 p.m. - Firewall** starring Harrison Ford and Paul Bettany

Jack is a bank security expert, whose specialty is designing infallible theft-proof financial computer systems. But there's a hidden vulnerability in the system he didn't account for - himself. When a ruthless criminal mastermind kidnaps his family, Jack is forced to find a flaw in his system and steal \$100 million. With the lives of his wife and children at stake and under constant surveillance, he has only hours to find a loophole in the thief's own impenetrable system of subterfuge and false identities to beat him at his own game. Rated PG-13 (intense violence) 105 min.

**Saturday: 4 p.m. Curious George**

**Saturday: 7 p.m. Pink Panther** starring Steve Martin and Beyonce' Knowles

A world-famous soccer coach has been murdered and his priceless, legendary ring has been stolen—a ring set with the stunning diamond known as the "Pink Panther." The French government needs a master detective to solve the crime and recover the gem—but he's not available, so they recruit none other than Inspector Jacques Clouseau. Rated PG (crude/suggestive humor, language) 92 min.

**Sunday: closed**  
**Wednesday: 7 p.m. - Pink Panther**  
**Thursday: 7 p.m. - Firewall**

Next week: *Date Movie*, *Freedomland* and *Eight Below*

*Movies subject to change. For updated listings, call 535-3302. For more information on ratings, visit [www.aafes.com](http://www.aafes.com).*





# EVENTS

Submission deadline is Thursday one week prior to publication. E-mail announcements in normal text with event, location, date, time, point of contact's full name and phone number/e-mail address to [news@lajes.af.mil](mailto:news@lajes.af.mil).

## Miscellaneous

**Easter Egg Hunt:** There will be an Easter Egg Hunt at the community center at 2 p.m. Saturday for children through age 12. For more information, call 535-5216.

**Easter Brunch:** An Easter Brunch is scheduled for 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Sunday at the Top of the Rock Club. There will be ham, turkey, prime rib, fried chicken, omelet and waffle station and other breakfast food. Reservations are required. Walk-ins will be taken as space permits. Cost is \$13.95 for members and \$15.95 for non members, \$6.95 for children age 6-12. Children under 5 are free.

There will be a member's Easter egg hunt from 10:30 to 10:45 a.m. for children 2 to 8 and from 11 to 11:15 a.m. for ages nine to 15 in the TORC garden. The person who finds the special egg will win a new bicycle.

**Murder Mystery Dinner:** The Enlisted Spouses Club is sponsoring a Mystery Dinner Theater 7 p.m. April 22 in the Top of the Rock Club ballroom. The event will include dinner, audience interaction, and maybe a murder or two.

Tickets are \$25 and include dinner. For more information, call Kim Pate at 295-549-250.

**Thrift shop:** PCSing soon? Not sure what to do with all those extra items you've accumulated, the Lajes thrift shop is the answer. Consider consigning items at the Lajes Thrift Shop. The thrift shop also accepts items for donation. The thrift shop is open Mondays, Wednesdays, Fridays and the third Saturday of the month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## Education

**Central Texas College:** Central Texas College is offering onsite Criminal Justice classes. For more information, call 535-6722.

**Oklahoma University classes:** The Masters of Human Relations degree program with University of Oklahoma is a 36-credit hour, non-

thesis degree that can be completed within 16-24 months.

The next course being offered for the Summer is HR 5022-231, "Research in Human Relations," a Core course towards the Master of Human Relations degree. The course dates are May 16-21. The last day to add/drop will be April 17.

For more information call 535-3171 or stop by Bldg. T-146, room 214.

## Jobs/Volunteer

**Thrift Shop Coordinator:** The thrift shop is looking for an Enlisted Spouses Club or Officer Spouses Club member to fill the Thrift Shop Coordinator position. This is a paid position, with lots of perks. For information or to apply, call Jane at 535-3567.

**Girl Scout Committee Chair:** A volunteer opportunity for a Terceira Island Girl Scouts Overseas Committee Chair position is open. Applicants need strong management, organizational and leadership skills. Requires application, interview and training (provided in Germany May 5-7). Some Girl Scout experience is helpful, but not mandatory. OCC oversees all Girl Scout activity on Terceira including Overseas Committee Management Team, leaders and troops. Applicants must have one year retainability and cannot be a troop leader while holding the position. Interested applicants can call Toni Leonard at 295-549-514 or Lin Earp at 295-549-711.

**Automotive instructors:** Central Texas College is seeking applications for Automotive Instructors who have an Associates degree or higher and a minimum of five years' work experience in the maintenance field or a Bachelor's degree and a minimum of three years work experience in the maintenance field. For more information, call 535-6722.

**Services vacancies:** The 65th Services Squadron vacancy listing is available at the human resources office in building T-112 between 9 a.m. and 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. For details, call 295-575-200 or 535-5200.

## Chapel

**Protestant Good Friday Service:** noon, Friday; **Good Friday/Passion and Veneration of the Cross:** 3 p.m. Friday; **Men's Spiritual Leadership Training/Breakfast:** 8 a.m. Saturday; **Easter Vigil Mass:** 8:30 p.m. Saturday; **Combined Protestant Worship Easter Celebration:** 8:30 a.m. Sunday; **Catholic Men of the Chapel Mass and dinner:** 6 p.m. Wednesday; **New Creation Café:** 7 p.m. April 21 at Eddies Place

For more information on chapel events, call 535-4211.

## Library

**Story Hour** is every Friday at 3 p.m. in the children's room in the base library.

**Sleepytime story hour** is scheduled for 7 p.m. April 21. Children can come dressed in their pajamas with their teddy and blanket.

**Bookmark contest:** The USAFE-wide bookmark design contest is open to children from kindergarten to 12th grade. Entry forms can be picked up at the library or downloaded from the [www.usafelibraries.org](http://www.usafelibraries.org) website. The contest ends April 30.

## Classified Ads

E-mail ads to [news@lajes.af.mil](mailto:news@lajes.af.mil). Ads are due by 5 p.m. Friday. Please remember to notify the Crossroads when items have been sold.

For sale: 1992 Toyota Tercel, Car runs great! Only minor rust and no major problems. Car will be available sometime between May - July as I will be getting short notice orders. Will sell for \$1200. Call 295-549-601 for more info.

For sale: Baby Crib, excellent condition - \$75; Fisher Price high chair - \$25; Graco stroller and car seat travel set, comes with car seat base - \$60; Jeep Liberty stroller - \$70; Fisher Price Intellatainer, teaches numbers and letters and sounds - \$40; Winnie the Pooh Classic Crib set, complete and with extras - \$25. Please call 295-549-601 for more info.

For sale: 1995 Renault Clio, 4 door, 1.2 liter, 5 speed, power windows, AM/FM cassette, low mileage, new tires, new rear brakes. No rust! Reliable! This is not an island bomb. Call Andy at 964-297-606 or home at 295-549-741. \$3500.

Wanted: Looking to buy an automatic car. Please call 295-516-998

Wanted: Bagpipe player with pipes available to participate in wing events in May and June. Contact Liam Clancy at 535-2325, or Jared Bickham at 535-5233.

For sale: Digital Camera: Sony P-31 w/ 128MB. \$75 obo; Projector: BenQ PB6200. Excellent condition! \$700 obo; 17" & 19" monitors: not quite perfect. \$15 ea. obo; TI-89 Graphing Calc: great shape! \$75; 19" TV: \$30 obo. E-mail [gregory.cooper@lajes.af.mil](mailto:gregory.cooper@lajes.af.mil), or call 295-549-818, 967-065-230

For Sale: Large 44" Satellite Dish. See all your AFN channels. Almost new, used for only 2 months, \$100. Call 295-549-272

For Sale: Evenflo Stroller/Car Seat Combo for 5-22 lbs. \$50; Bassinet \$20; Entertainment Center fits 32" TV \$75; King Size Bed/Metal Frame \$75; Booster Seat for 30-80 lbs. \$20; Dirt Devil Vacuum \$10; Call James or Danielle at 295-549-541 or 962-074-116. PCS'ing soon. Prices negotiable.

For Sale: 3 Dehumidifiers (110V) \$75 each. Like new, used only twice, and works like a champ. Call Elisa between 9 a.m. and 10 p.m. at 964-101 752 or e-mail at [erzitter@myrealbox.com](mailto:erzitter@myrealbox.com)

Need Childcare? Availability: Anytime including nights and weekends; 10+ years experience; will care for children of all ages; Trained in First Aid & CPR; Call Jenny at 295-549-811

For Sale: Forever Mine-Crib, mattress and chest of drawers \$150 OBO; Dehumidifier \$35 OBO; Graco playpen w/carrying case \$50 OBO; Changing table \$20 OBO Call 295-549-485

For Sale: Entertainment Center, almost brand new and in box, \$70; Wooden bookshelf, \$30. Call 295-549-794

Wanted: Drummer for established Rock Band. No Kit Necessary! Call Steve at 295-549-733

Babysitting on weekend nights: will babysit 3 years of age or higher; I am 14 and have taken the babysitter course for CPR/first aid; experience with children; Call Brandon at 295-549-579

For Sale: 2000 KTM Duke II. 3969.5 miles, 640cc's. \$4,000 or best offer. For details, e-mail [Coriscav83@hotmail.com](mailto:Coriscav83@hotmail.com)

For sale: Ameda Purely Yours electric double breast pump \$35. Evenflo Babygo Playpen that you can hook up music to. Includes a built in bassinet, toy bar and diaper changing attachment. Navy blue. \$45. Call 295-516-031

Nanny available: fun loving, creative and honest. First language English, second Portuguese, relocating to Terceira from Canada looking to start a full time position ASAP - concentrating on early childhood education, fine motor skills, and developmental tasks - 5 years experience, fabulous references. E-mail [ashleysousa@gmail.com](mailto:ashleysousa@gmail.com) or call 416-354-2630

Nanny available: Highly dependable, outstanding on taking care of your children and domestic help. I'm also well known by the management at the CDC. I have reliable transportation, access to the interior of the base and a good command of the English language. Feel free to contact me (Mrs. Judy): 295-517-014 or 962356981

For sale: 27" JVC television \$275 Call David at 535-1422 or 295-543-111.

For sale: Fire and Ice Portable Gas Grill with extra propane tank. Teflon cooking surface and built-in cooler. Clean and rust free. \$100. Call Andy at 964-297-606 or home at 295-549-741

For Sale: American washer/dryer; set \$50, large Amana microwave \$25, contact 295-549-512

Looking to rent: Spacious house, 3+ bedrooms, large fenced yard for toddler, ocean view, newer or no mold problems, garage and room to park two cars, within 15 minutes of the base. Would love heat and even AC if available. Monthly rent \$2,000 or less. Not in a hurry. Call 295-516-031.